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JULY 23, 1890.

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Farmer

AND

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Agriculture, Horticulture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,

THE OLDEST AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN MARYLAND, AND FOR TEN YEARS THE ONLY ONE.

AND NEW FARM.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, July 23, 1890.

No. 30.

For the Maryland Farmer.

OUR NEW FARM, V.

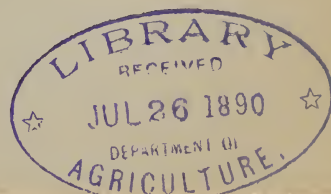
When I got home and told my wife and my daughter about how far things had progressed in the way of slicking up the place, and that I wanted to move, at furthest, by next Monday—you should have seen and heard the excitement. We had all become young again and for the time being were so many children,

Our calculations were all made to have our furniture to the cars Saturday morning. We would stay at our friend's (Mrs. Rowe's) over Sunday and take the first train on Monday for the farm. This program was carried out. Sunday was a rainy day; but it cleared up towards night. We went to church morning and evening and received the condolences or congratulations of our friends, as they variously regarded our movements. We paid up our church dues, and requested to be left off from the subscription list for the pres-

ent. We expected of course to do our little share where we were going, for church privileges.

When Monday morning came we took leave of Mrs. Rowe and her family, inviting them all to make us a visit during the summer, and we started off in high spirits for the cars. We think now, we must have appeared more like people bent on some pleasure excursion, than like a family taking one of the most serious steps in life that could possibly be imagined. Changing from city life to a country life. Putting away city notions for country ways and country experiences. No longer to be known as "city squashes," but to become "country pumpkins."

Well, it was a pleasure excursion, and although the B. & O. cars made rapid time, it was not any too rapid for us, and our words and anticipations kept fully up with the best speed of the railroad. In what appeared an incredibly short time we



were at our destination—our trunks on the platform—and the city with all its confusion, noise, excitements, interests, claims, already a thing of the past. We had given them all up. Only a lingering of affection for a few of our acquaintances and for particularly intimate friends came with us to this station and would go with us to our new home. Our hearts beat strong for the new life.

When we looked around us, you don't know how surprised we were to find there four teams besides Charley loading up our household goods.

My wife said:

"Father, father," she always calls me father, "what does all this mean? Surely that is our furniture, and what are they taking it away for?"

And I said:

"Those are some of our neighbors, and I judge that Charley has told them it was coming to-day, so they have turned out to give us a friendly lift."

Then both wife and daughter said:

"Why, how kind!"

As they both said the same words together, they straightway hooked their little fingers together, and I suppose each made a wish. What the wish was I can't say; but I suppose it must have been in reference to the new home of course.

So we all walked over to the freight car and were introduced in a very informal way to our neighbors. I was already acquainted with Mr. Camden and I introduced my wife and daughter to him, and he in turn gave us the names of Mr. Burns, Mr. Merritt and Mr. Hutchens. Charley was there giving general directions and had procured a spring wagon into which they had placed our old piano, which for fifteen years or more had accompanied our wanderings, and was still in prime order—it was one of Stieff's.

It is not possible for me to describe

what were our feelings on this memorable occasion. It was so entirely unexpected; for Charley on the first opportunity had told me that the neighbors had all volunteered to help the moving. He had gone to Mr. Camden, and he had told Charley to leave it to him and he would see that it came up without any cost to us.

And now we mount our teams and form in procession for the farm. I sit in the front load driven by Mr. Camden, and my wife and daughter are in the last load which contains the piano and some mattresses and is driven by Charley. The families occupying the store and the two or three houses that make up the station, honor us by coming in full force to see us on our way; otherwise, our departure is as quiet as it is orderly.

None of us will ever forget that ride from the depot to the farm, although it was wholly uneventful, and only enlivened now and then by an extra snap of the whips or a call to the teams, when the hill was a little more steep than usual; or when in one or two places we stopped on the side hill, chocked the wheels, and then started again after breathing the horses.

When we came in sight of the place, my wife and my daughter could hardly believe it was the same. I was walking beside their team at the time, and my daughter said:

"Why, mamma, some one has built a new house since we were here, see there!"

Then we all laughed, even Charley enjoyed a "ha! ha!" which attracted the attention of some of those in advance. But I said:

"No, my daughter, that is our place, which has been painted and slicked up a little. Don't you see the front fence is not up yet, and there goes Mr. Camden's team up to the front porch."

Indeed, the two coats of drab paint and the trimmings in dark brown had com-

pletely metamorphosed the dwelling, while the barns with their white fences did not disturb the harmony; and I do not wonder that one at a distance and looking through the foliage would think it a new building. The unfinished front fence, too, would at first help out the illusion.

I saw, too, during all this day's work, that our neighbors thought we were of some considerable consequence. It appeared in the tones of their voices and in the way they spoke of us to each other and in the cheerful willingness and desire to place our furniture in the different rooms when it was unloaded. I was satisfied then that we should be in the midst of friends, if we would be friendly. I have never regretted that I have acted upon this conviction. I believe it is the true principle upon which to live in both city and country. If we are friendly to others, they will be friends to us.

Arriving at our house Mr. Camden's son and daughter were both there, who joined in the work as heartily as any of us, and immediately commenced to put things in order so that we might have a comfortable resting place at least when the night should come.

Then to cap it all, in the midst of our labors planning where to put all our goods, Mrs. Camden came and said we were all to go over to her house to tea; she had made preparation for us, as she knew we could not have any kind of a meal with everything in confusion.

And what a meal was that! How the women talked! and how the young people laughed! and what pleasant words of kindly welcome came from all—they linger now in all our hearts, a rich and blessed memory.

That first night, with strips of carpet on the floor leading to our beds, with nothing in order, with newspapers tacked up to

the windows for curtains, with the outside doors only half fastened, and our bed room doors stretched wide open that we might call to each other if necessary, we laid ourselves to rest in our own house. We must have been tired, for we slept the sleep of the righteous, and it was full day when we woke the next morning.

(To be continued next week.)

THE AMERICAN FARMERS' ENCAMPMENT OF 1890.

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AUGUST 17 TO 23, Inclusive.

5,000 Acres of Woodland, Meadow and Lake.

Canvas tent accommodations for 12,000 farmers and their families. Pavilion for discussions, and Auditorium for amusements.

85,000 square feet of platform for exhibits and acres for machinery in motion.

In the park is the celebrated Mount Gretna Narrow Gauge Railroad, the most unique and wonderful railroad in actual operation in the world. To see it alone is worth a visit.

Opening sermon, August 17th, by Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, D. D. Sacred music by 150 trained choristers.

Agriculturists from all parts of America invited.

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For particulars, address Executive Committee American Farmers' Encampment, Harrisburg, Penna.

Hitherto Patient Boarder: "Mrs. Starvem, I can stand having hash every day in the week; but when on Sunday you put raisins in it, and call it mince-pie, I draw the line."

POULTRY
and
POULTRY KEEPING,

by

H. R. WALWORTH,

Editor of The Maryland Farmer.

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CHAPTER XV.

POULTRY ON FARMS.

We have hitherto been considering the keeping of Poultry in rather confined quarters, in the vicinity of cities or large towns, where the cost of land is an object, and everything for food and comfort would have to be bought to supply the flock. Even under these circumstances, when properly cared for, the business can be made a successful one. It is then of course the primary work; having all the attention which would be bestowed upon any branch of business in which one is engaged.

We now wish to speak of the advantages of Poultry properly kept on Farms, and as a part of the general work of the Farm; recognizing it as Stock, the same as any other portion of Farm Stock; with the care, naturally bestowed upon all the different branches of Stock, bestowed also upon the poultry.

We have first here an unlimited range for the poultry, which is a prime element in point of health and success. We have also room for the ample accommodation of large numbers, so that crowded quarters need give no apprehension. We have the

natural conditions, too, under which Poultry should thrive as the farm supplies the variety of natural food, and exercise in its best form, that of seeking food.

With these advantages to start in the business, let suitable poultry houses be erected the same as heretofore mapped out to accomodate a dozen hens and a cock, so that the flocks may be kept each in its own home, and all the conditions are provided for success.

These small houses need not be crowded together but can be placed wherever most convenient. It would be best to have them some distance apart so that each flock may be sure to know and occupy its own home. Having all needed range, each in turn having its day out, if it be necessary for such an arrangement, it is quite important that they should come home to their own house at night. These houses in the aggregate will not be as expensive as the sheds and barns provided for other stock, if the net income is taken into consideration; and this is the proper way of computing these outlays of money.

The greatest item to consider in connexion with poultry on the farm is this: The cost of keeping is very small. In this fact we realize that the profit must be very large, and the advantages of this stock will warrant even extra attention and care upon the part of the farmer. Let us see on what grounds we can justify this assertion of the small cost of keeping poultry on the farm.

Having comparatively large range over fields and orchards poultry are able to pick up a good portion of their living. When confined to yards all things they themselves would gather must be supplied in some way. These things on the farm cost nothing; they cost both labor and money when not on the farm. They are wasted if not thus gathered by the poultry in field and orchard.

Our attention has been called to the fact that these articles have "copyright" attached to them. It is to secure them for publication in book form as soon as completed. We do not object to any of our exchanges copying them or any part of them who will give us the customary credit.—Ed.

Poultry in the Summer supply themselves with all kinds of seeds, with every needed bit of flesh food in insects, worms, etc., with all the green food they naturally want. They gather the seeds and grain which otherwise is wasted around the barn, the grain bins and the corn cribs. They appropriate the fallen fruit which would go to decay and devour the worm which has caused it to fall. They pick up all the scattered grain on the ground after harvesting; and the very best harvesting machine leaves no small quantity behind it. In other ways their summer keep is largely met on the farm with scarcely any cost.

In winter the screenings where grain is threshed and cleaned help in the general supply, and all the vegetable scraps are supplied without the necessity of purchasing from the city market, or begging and hauling from the city if obtained without money. When poultry are confined, it is estimated that the cost of each fowl is at least one dollar a year for food supply—at least one half of this, if not two thirds, is provided by the farm from the waste or the natural supply for which the farmer would not receive a cent.

These things demonstrate the fact that the cost of keeping poultry on the farm is small. The profit, however, is even greater than the increased income in dollars and cents; for in every weed seed devoured, every insect caught, every grub picked up, every worm torn from fruit or plant, every caterpillar exterminated, we see the additional profit they are bringing to the farmer in better crops and fairer fruits, and larger prices as a result. These are positive benefits aside from dollars and cents, for keeping of poultry on the farm.

The best general farm chicken is the cross of white Leghorn Cock on the Light Brahma pullet. This is our experience. We would have to state the fact because

with us it is fully proved from a long experience. They give the most eggs in winter, they give the earliest and best chicks, they supply the most desirable market fowl when dressed in amount of flesh and in good size and satisfactory appearance. They sell rapidly both to wholesale dealers and consumers. These things are the test.

Although the above cross is our favorite, yet the pure-bred poultry will always be in demand, because it is a great satisfaction in itself to have pure breeds. Among these none are more popular than the Light Brahmas and the Plymouth Rocks. They are rightfully popular. Had we a flock of mongrel chickens on our farm and wished to improve them, we should kill off all our males and introduce Plymouth Rock males in their stead. We naturally prefer the Light Brahmas if kept by themselves as the best pure breed for the farm; but the Plymouth Rock male is the best "improver" of anything yet known. Large, exceedingly active and ambitious, very attentive to his wives, he transmits his habits of industry and energy, as well as an improved size, to the flock over which he reigns.

Now for a few common place directions

The Poultry should not be allowed to roost in the trees, or anywhere except in their home house, either in summer or winter.

In summer they will need but one full feed daily, and that just before they go to roost at night. A small scattering of grain in their midst in the early morning, just to start them off comfortably, will be acceptable.

In winter give them warm quarters, feed them regularly, and supply them often with water from which just the icy chill is taken off. They require more attention in cold weather just as do any other stock on the farm, and no stock will respond so

readily as they to any attention bestowed upon them.

Their houses must be cleaned just as thoroughly when on the farm, as may have been directed elsewhere, but they will not need the dust bath, the gravel, etc., except when the ground is frozen or covered with snow in winter.

Filth, lack of good water, neglect are the cause of nine tenths of the sickness of the poultry. This is a fact every farmer should remember. Remember, too, that everytime your neglect ends the life of one of your flock, it is cash, actual cash, gone.

The Smalley Cutter.

Modern methods in farming cannot be pursued without a good feed-cutter. Whether the forage is cut up green and ensilage or cured and cut as it is fed out, all experience has shown the advantages of cutting it. This fact gave special interest to the exhibits of feed-cutters at the recent fair of the American Institute in New York. The highest award in the class in which such implements were shown, was awarded to the Smalley Ensilage and Feed-cutter, exhibited by Minard Harder, of Cobleskill, N. Y. The prize awarded was a special medal—the only one of that grade given in the department.—*American Agriculturist, New York, Jan'y, 1890.*

MARYLAND FAIRS.

When held, and address of Secretary.

Baltimore Co., Timonium,	Sept. 2—5
H. C. Longnecker, Sec'y., Towson, Md.	
Cecil Co., Elkton,	Oct. 7—10.
John Partridge, Sec'y., Elkton, Md.	
Frederick Co., Frederick,	Oct. 14—17.
Geo. W. Cramer, Sec'y., Frederick, Md.	
Montgomery County	Sept. 3—5.
John E. Mancaster, Sec'y., Norbeck, Md.	
Washington Co. Hagerstown,	Oct. 14—17.
P. A. Witmer, Sec'y., Hagerstown, Md.	
Maryland State combined with Harford Co. }	Bel Air, Sep. 30—Oct. 3.
James W. McNabb, Sec'y., Bel Air Md.	
Williams' Grove, Pa.,	Aug. 25—31.
R. H. Thomas, General Manager, Mechanicsburg, Pa.	
Farmers' Encampment, } Mt. Gretna Park, Pa. }	Aug. 17—23.
Address—Ex. Com., Harrisburg, Pa.	

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ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

The Rev. Dr. Huntley, of Annapolis, made some specific charges of very gross delinquency upon the part of the faculty and Board of Managers of St. John's College; among others, of religious services followed by dancing in the same room, of supper at which intoxicating liquors are freely advertised, and drunkenness winked at in certain undergraduates, etc., etc.

We see that the Board appointed a committee, who in general words, without denying a single specific charge of Dr. Huntley, "white-wash" the faculty, and virtually acknowledge the specific acts, saying that Dr. Huntley exaggerated the facts.

St. John's College has liberal appropri-

ations from the State, and its officers should meet the specific charges with specific denials, and not expect that the public will be satisfied with general platitudes ignoring the facts stated by Dr. Huntley, or belittling gross departures from morality, making drunkenness or the promotion of drunkenness a matter of no moment.

If these things were openly advertised, we think it is not difficult to prove it, and St. John's College has no claim either on the patronage of the people or to any support by the people's money. If the specific charges made are denied by the committee of the Board, let the public know it. No wish-washy resolution of confidence in the faculty and congratulation on past or present success will blind the public.

WILLIAM'S GROVE PIC-NIC.

Our readers are all well acquainted with the Grangers Interstate Picnic Exhibition annually held at Williams' Grove, Pa. In this number will be found their advertisement, to which we would call especial attention. The principal point is that it is in every respect a strictly Agricultural Exhibition and Fair, divested of all outside and demoralizing influences. The unequalled success in the past may be traced to a persistent conformity to this policy.

FREE TUITION IN AGRICULTURE.

The proposed addition of \$15,000 to Agricultural Colleges to be gradually raised to \$25,000 a year, should be given only with the view of making tuition as nearly free as possible to all agricultural students. Free Schools are the policy of our country—that all may have as large a share of education as possible, and that the general intelligence shall rank high. Let it be the policy of our government in

making these liberal donations to Agricultural Colleges. Free tuition in every branch which relates to agriculture. It should be a forfeiture of the grant, when tuition is charged students.

THINNING.

Why do you pull up weeds? Because they crowd the plants and decrease the crop. Because they take away the food the cultivated plant needs. Because they give the plant itself more room to produce abundantly. Because they always prove a nuisance. These are precisely the reasons for thinning out your crop, whatever it may be. If you are to have beets a foot apart in the row, all the rest of them are weeds, all the rest of them are a nuisance. If you are to have carrots eight inches apart in the row, out with all the rest of them—they are only weeds. In every other crop it is the same. The thinning is a saving and beneficial process every time, if done according to the proper method.

CONSIDER THE TAXES.

In 1880 the farmers owned only one fourth of the property of our country; but they paid 80 per cent of the taxes. It has not grown any better in the last ten years. The effort of all other classes in our land is to escape taxation and to cast it more completely on the farmer. The causes of depression in agriculture are many; but among them must be placed this constant drain, directly and indirectly, of millions, even to 80 per cent of all the taxes raised in our land. It is time our law-makers were changed. The time has arrived when we should allow lawyers and merchants and professional politicians to stay at home and place intelligent farmers in the legislative halls.

ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.

Flowers for the Dinner Table—How They Should Be Arranged.

For some of the smartest dinner parties center table slips are not used. The art of table decoration depends upon the skill with which the flowers are disposed. Trails lie on the cloth and are not even tied with ribbons. Many things are brought into play—old china, old plate and curious ornaments. A mound of flowers is often placed in the center or one formed only of leaves. Roses look delightful massed in baskets of old china. A new idea is to introduce arches about eighteen inches high, crossing each other, made of ferns which appear to be growing on them. Sprays of orchids are placed beneath these arches, and bowls of white lilies or other delicate flowers between. The central arches crossing each other present the effect of a bower. A cornucopia with blooms pouring from it looks well. In the country all kinds of arrangements are fashionable; leaves and twigs are charmingly heaped in the center, with vases or baskets of flowers at the edge.

Rose Jars.

Subtle, suggestive and dreamful as is the fragrance of flowers, it is a wonder that housekeepers do not manufacture their own stock wherewith to distill odors delicious as those from "Araby the blest." It takes but little time and attention, and the result is extremely satisfying. Among the recipes tried and not found wanting Decorator and Furnisher gives the following:

Gather fresh roses in the morning as soon as the dew is off, or even before if it be oppressively warm, in which case they should be plucked from their receptacles and dried before packing. See that no insects are concealed beneath the leaves and discard yellow centers and green sepals. Such fragrant roses as the old fashioned damask are the best, but all roses contain some essential oil. Then in a large bowl of glass or china place a layer of petals, then one of fine pure salt, lightly sprinkled. Set it well covered in a dry, shady place, and add to it day by day all the petals that can be secured. Stir up the roses before adding a new layer, and so continue until the blossoms have disappeared, or long enough to make at least two weeks from the first gathering.

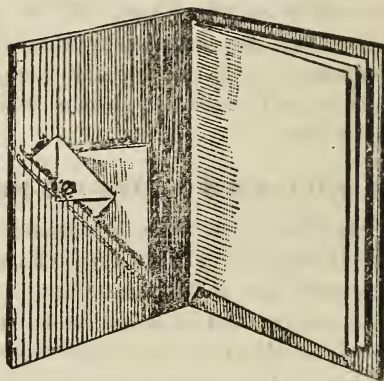
By this time the roses will be "cured" and will appear moist. If there is a quart in all you have the foundation of a good potpourri. Now transfer the stock to a glass fruit jar, on the bottom of which you have placed two ounces of bruised allspice and as much stick cinnamon broken into large pieces. The water, if any, should be first drained away. Here allow it to remain one month, closely covered, stirring

it up thoroughly every day from top to bottom.

It is now ready for permanent preservation. The blue and white Japanese jar is best to hold it, for it preserves the fragrance. Now have ready an ounce each of mace, cinnamon, cloves and allspice coarsely ground, the same quantity of sliced ginger root and nutmeg, half as much anise seed and four ounces of musk, with six ounces of dried lavender flowers. Again strew the rose leaves in the permanent jar, alternating with these mixed spices, moistening from time to time with pure alcohol, using about one gill in all, and the jar is complete.

How to Make a Blotter.

To make a blotter like the one shown (lying open) in the cut two pieces of stout cardboard are required twelve and one-half



HOMEMADE BLOTTER (OPEN).

inches by eight and one-half inches in size. These are joined by a narrow band of firm linen.

The green silk lining is first stretched and gummed with a half inch turning, and with it is also made a three cornered pocket to hold envelopes, card, paper, etc. The old brocade or embroidery intended for the top is then gummed on, and afterward the back in green moire silk. Sheets of blotting paper are slipped through the elastic band in the center of the inside.

Strawberry Ice Cream.

Pick over three pints of ripe strawberries, and put them in a large bowl with one pint of granulated sugar. Crush the sugar and strawberries together with a vegetable masher and let them stand for two or three hours. At the end of that time rub through a strainer that is fine enough to keep back the seeds. To the strained mixture add one quart of cream, not too rich, and freeze. This amount of material will make about three quarts of the frozen cream. It is one of the most

Send us the Names and Post Office address of all your friends so we can send them sample copies.

delicious ice creams made. People sometimes try to freeze the whole fruit.

Miss Parloa, who gives the foregoing recipe in Good Housekeeping, says if fruit be simply mixed with the frozen cream, and stand for an hour or so, this will answer, but it must be remembered that the strawberry has very little sugar in it, and that it will become as hard almost as a rock if it is exposed to the freezing temperature for any length of time. The preserved fruit, being saturated with sugar, will not harden in this way when kept at the freezing point.

One Way to Cleanse a Carpet.

Having dusted and removed such articles as can be carried from the room wring a flannel mop out of hot water and wipe the carpet thoroughly, wringing the mop from clean water as often as it may become soiled. Now sweep with a clean broom as you ordinarily would, and when you have finished you will have a bright, clean carpet, with little or no dust, and all at the expense of a very little hard labor. Those who have not tried this method are skeptical about its merits, but one trial will convince, says The Sanitary Volunteer.

Burnt Cream.

Burn two ounces of sugar to a golden brown, then whisk half a pint of cream and add the sugar to it; whisk it till it is quite stiff and then add five yolks of eggs and another pint of cream (whisked); continue to whisk it for about five minutes longer and at the last add one and one-half ounces of dissolved gelatine, pour it into a mold and let it set. (The gelatine should be first soaked for an hour before it is wanted, and then boiled with a very little water for a few minutes till it is quite dissolved.)

Neither Plays Nor Sings.

There is an old lady musician in this city who as a musical prodigy surpasses everything else of record. Her friends have furnished her a room in one of the downtown blocks, and there she can be seen and heard at all hours of the day. It is not known whether her friends are lovers of music or not, but at any rate she is never asked to play when visiting them. They probably belong to that class of people who never appreciate home talent. The lady has four diligent pupils. Her unoccupied time she spends in practicing. She can teach the theory of music well, but can play very little. Two pieces are all that she has ever tried to play. Her studies are now concentrated on the last measures of "Home, Sweet Home," and if she lives long

If you or your friends use Sheet Music look for our special offer to subscribers.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

We call especial attention to this list of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, etc. They all issue good Catalogues and will cheerfully send you one free, if you write referring to the Maryland Farmer. We believe every one of them to be reliable.—*Editor Md. Farmer.*

Thos. Meehan & Son, Oaks, Rare Ornamentals, Germantown, Pa.

D. H. Patty, Nurseries. Geneva, N. Y. Agents Wanted.

A. W. Livingston's Sons, Specialty, New Tomatoes. Columbus, O.

West Jersey Nursery Co. Choicest New & Standard Fruits. Bridgeton, N. J.

H. S. Anderson, Importer; visits Europe annually to inspect packing &c. Union Sp'gs, N. Y.

Wm. Parry, Nursery Stock; Small Fruits. Grapes, etc. Parry, N. J.

Z. DeForest Ely & Co. The Popular Seedsmen. Philadelphia, Pa.

P. J. Berckmans, Trees, plants, etc., adapted to the South. Augusta, Ga.

W. M. Peter's Sons, Peach Trees a Specialty. Wesley, Md.

E. B. Richardson & Co. Nurserymen. Salesmen wanted. Geneva, N. Y.

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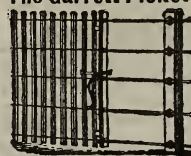
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"Having frequent occasion to make long drives with the heavy farm wagon in hot weather, I one day arranged an umbrella as shown at Fig. 1. I cut a small burr oak, about an inch in diameter at the butt, tied the umbrella to the small end and the other end to the seat back. The oak is very tough and will bend to any desired position without breaking. I hold the umbrella in range of the sun by tying the end of a halter strap to the handle and hanging the headstall over the edge of the load at the right point.

"Where the seat is hooked on the top box it is quite tiresome either to let the feet hang in midair or to keep them upon the top of the end board. To reme-



FIG. 1—TO KEEP THE SUN OFF.

dy this I cut notches in the upper ends of the cleats back of the front board, shown by dotted lines at a; then by having a place to put through an end gate rod at c one of the hind end boards can be used for a foot rest, b."

The anti-steal bar shown in the second cut is another very simple yet effective contrivance for locking the stable door.

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illustrated in the same journal as was the foregoing.

"It consists simply of a couple of pieces of strong bar iron. The upright at the right of the door is mortised to allow the longer bar to pass back far enough for the other end to enter the upright at the left. The left end is notched as represented, and a short piece is fastened by a single bolt, allowing the notched end to play up and down. When the bar is pushed in the catch rises until the notch is passed, when it drops into the notch in the bar, holding it firmly.

"To open it is a puzzle to the uninitiated. The key is a short piece of fence wire, which should hang near at hand. Move the bar to the left, which raises the catch, pass the key through a gimlet hole represented just over the catch, press against the catch, holding it up, when the bar can be pulled out. There are several advantages in this mode of fastening. It is inexpensive; there is no trouble if the key be lost, as another can

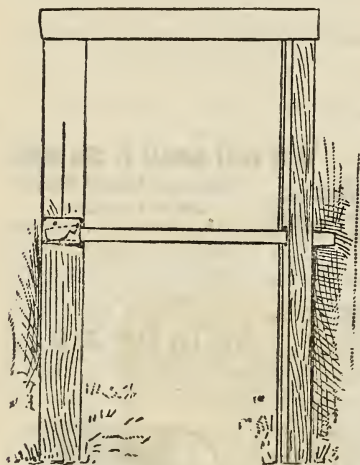
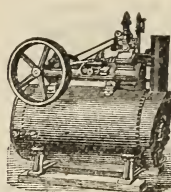


FIG. 2—THE ANTI-STEAL BAR.

be easily made; it is effective, as it is impossible to get a horse through the door even if opened; the door may be left open in warm weather, often a desirable consideration. The device is unpatented and may be made by any blacksmith."

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SHOEING FARM HORSES.

Directions for the Shoeing of Farm Horses and Mules—When and How Colts' Feet Should Be Treated—Advantages of the Flat Shoe Without Calks.

The conditions on the farm are so different from what they are in the cities that the subject of the care and shoeing of the feet of farm horses demands a place and study of itself. Although it is a fact that the character of the work on the farm, the soft ground on which the horses have to tread, and the freedom from accidents ought to give farm horses almost an immunity from lameness, yet it is true that a considerable percentage of them are either lame or suffer from more or less deformity of the feet or limbs. Much of this may be unavoidable, but there is a wide margin which is due to improper treatment or neglect of the feet. Professor R. R. Dinwiddie gives the following hints and directions on the subject which we reprint for the benefit of our readers from the Rural New Yorker.



FIG. 1—CONCAVE SIDE OF HORSE SHOE.

Colts until they are put to work require no shoes, but their feet must be occasionally attended to. It sometimes happens that when pastured on soft ground the wear of the ground surface of the hoof is disproportional to the growth, and this occurs chiefly at the heels, where the natural slope of the wall is more nearly perpendicular, and a tendency to contraction is thereby induced. If neglected this is likely to lead to permanent contraction or deformity of the hoof. The remedy consists in removing the excess of growth at the heels with a knife

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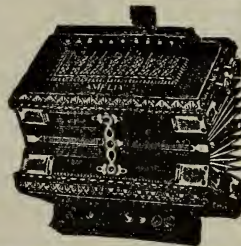
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and restoring the hoof to its proper proportions.

The opposite condition does not often occur in unshod colts, the growth at the toe by its direction in reference to the ground tending rather to spread outward and lead to vertical cracks or fissures. To prevent the extension of these to the soft tissues above it is necessary to trim off the superabundance occasionally either with the knife or chisel. These abnormal conditions are most common in the fore feet. When the colt is put to work on the farm it is customary to leave the feet unshod for some time, and unless the ground is hard and stony this practice has advantages. After a little experience in work the fore feet should be shod, while the hind feet in ordinary soil may be left bare during the summer. I have never seen any evil results from this except when the colt was used on graveled roads. In this case shoeing all around is imperative.

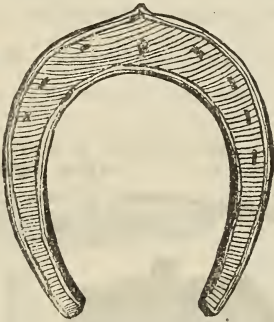


FIG. 2—FLAT SIDE OF HORSE SHOE.

I have no hesitation in pronouncing in favor of the flat shoe without calks on heel or toe, concave on the ground surface and flat on the surface which contracts the sole, as shown at Figs. 1 and 2. Whatever difference of opinion there may be about the use of this kind of shoe in city work there is no room for doubt as to its advantages when worn by the farm horse. If much work on mud roads is to be performed shoes should also be put on the hind feet. Here there is less objection to the use of shoes with moderate calks, although little can be said in their favor. The shoes should be readjusted and the feet brought to their proper proportions at least once in every five or six weeks. The feet should be regularly cleaned out with the hook as a part of the horse's daily grooming.

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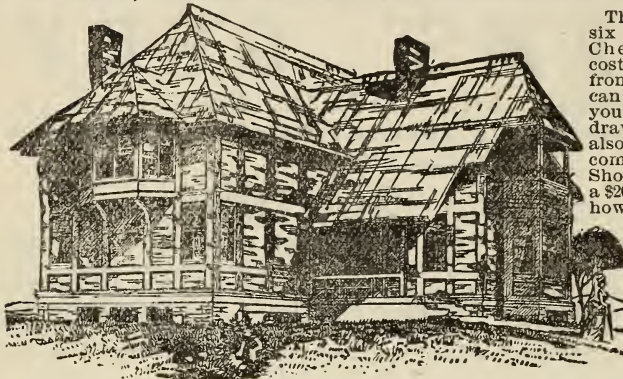
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